Letters To the Editor,
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Historical

Dear Sir,

Does anyone know of an old house, two stories, of wood, amid some trees off a road in the Chileno Valley area that was occupied by a family named Salazar in the 1850s and part of the 1860's?

It was evidently still standing about thirty years ago when some descendents thought they found it. There is a tradition that Jose Salazar had a ranch in Chileno Valley but research showed that the grant of Rancho Laguna de San Antonio was given to Bartolome Bojorques who had settled there in 1837. However he divided the over 24.000 acres among himself and his eight grown children into nine parts and as some of his sons and daughters did not wish to stay there they were selling and giving it away before clearing titles and their father did NOT leave a will. It was evidently under these circumstances that Jose Salazar may have been given or sold land by Pedro and Maria Bojorques, Godparents of Maria Juana Salazar who was born in 1857 somewhere in the Chileno Valley area. This is proven by a birth certificate. Maria Juana Salazar was my great grandmother.

Also does anyone know who the Chilenos were after whom the valley - "Chileno" was named? The Bojorques were of Sonoran origen, probably of Basque-Catalan descent with some Indian blood in Pedro Antonio who came in the de Anza espedition of 1775 to the Bay Area. Bartolome Bojorques was the son of Pedro Antonio.

Forty or fifty years ago Maria Juana Salazar, then Mrs. Jenny Murzi, widow, was visited by a relative from Chili. Mrs. Murzi died in 1937. Her parents were Jose Salazar from San Jose who married Maria Antonia Arroyo. I also wondered when the origional settlement of several adobe and log palizadas around the Laguna de San Antonio was deserted and the descendents of the grantee Bartolome Bojorques and their relatives and freinds moveed to Spanish Town, of which one building, the former Laguna Tavern still stands.

~~Yours Sincerly,~~

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